Question 1: What does this [security screening] entail?
Response 1: The security screening is a standard background check required to obtain a Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) visitor badge for escorted access into the PSNS Controlled Industrial Area (CIA). This is not a formal security clearance (e.g., Secret/Top Secret). The process requires the contractor to submit standard identifying information (e.g., proof of US citizenship, valid ID) to the Government technical point of contact at least 10 business days prior to the service date. *Note: The reference to a DD254 in the PWS is a template error and is not applicable to this procurement.*

Question 2: To confirm, does it require each technician who would come onsite to calibrate your pipettes to spend 2 days at your facility to complete the security check?
Response 2: No. The background screening is completed remotely before the technicians arrive. The PWS reference to "two (2) business days" refers to the expected duration of the on-site calibration work itself, not a security wait period. On the first morning of the service visit, technicians will only need to visit the Pass & ID office to retrieve their physical badges. Depending on what time they come in to get their badges, the process typically takes less than one hour, after which they can immediately begin work.

Question 3: Would clearance need to be redone each year of the contract?
Response 3: Yes. Visitor badges are issued for a maximum of 12 months. The contractor will be required to submit renewal paperwork before the start of each option year to ensure uninterrupted facility access.

Technical Requirements:
Question 4: The contractor noted that ISO 8655-6 requires strict environmental conditions and asked if sending pipettes out for calibration has been considered.
Response 4: The requirement is strictly for on-site services only. The PSNS & IMF Code 134 laboratory is an ISO 17025:2017 accredited facility that maintains all necessary environmental controls (including strict temperature, humidity, draft, and vibration monitoring) required to support on-site calibrations compliant with the ISO 8655 series. The Government will also provide access to calibrated analytical balances as stated in PWS Section 3.1. Off-site or mail-in calibration alternatives will not be considered.